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The robber who loves arranging flowers

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The robber who loves arranging flowers

In this presentation we want to discuss the problems and possibilities in treatment of a patient who generates strong positive and negative reactions in therapists.

As the title illustrates there is a contrast within Mr. P. which shows itself during treatment in a high security hospital. The antitheses in his personality are visible in the different attitudes and interventions of the staff. The responsible heads of the division emphasize the risks of Mr. P. (PCL-R, 36). The non verbal and verbal therapists are more focused on the possibilities of him, and sociotherapists and nurses struggle with him about the daily rules continuously. All these staff positions reflect relations in the past of Mr. P., acted out in the hospital.

The individual psychotherapist coaches Mr. P. to verbalize his inner world better. He invites him to speak in more complete sentences instead of the staccato ones. For this purpose he uses MBT techniques. The music therapist encourages him to sing about his life story. We will illustrate this with a Youtube clip, composed by Mr. P. himself. In this manner is searched for narrative ways to learn Mr. P. to express his inner world in the hope he can connect and integrate the traumatized segments in his self better.

But questions arise during his treatment. Can Mr. P. connect the different approaches with each other? Is the staff capable to be in touch with each other without to be split? Is it possible to combine strict high security rules with permissive therapeutic attitudes? Are narratives therapeutic for patients with high psychopathy, or provide they the opportunity to manipulate and to control the therapy?

We want to evaluate these and other questions, and possible answers on them.